



PINELANDS COMMISSION GUIDE

Recreational Opportunities,
Historic Sites,
Nature Centers, and
Field Trips
in the New Jersey Pinelands

INTRODUCTION

“Where can I go to experience New Jersey’s Pinelands?”

Whether you are interested in exploring a historic site, visiting a nature center, or hiking a woods trail, suggestions in our guide help answer this question. Not every site listed is located in the “heart” of the Pinelands, but every entry will introduce you to Pinelands related experiences.

This booklet contains a representative sampling of places to visit and things to do. The following publications describe additional recreational opportunities, historic sites, nature centers, and field trips that are located in and around New Jersey’s Pinelands.

You may want to supplement this Pinelands Guide with information from these books:

Boyd, Howard P. A Field Guide to the Pine Barrens of New Jersey. Medford, N.J.: Plexus Publishing Inc., 1991.

Cawley, James and Margaret Exploring the Little Rivers of New Jersey. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1993.

Dann, Kevin and Miller, Gordon 30 Walks in New Jersey. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1992.

Held, Patricia Contreras A Field Guide to New Jersey Nature Centers. New Brunswick, NJ and London: Rutgers University Press, 1988.

Lawrence, Susannah The Audubon Society Field Guide to the Natural Places of the Mid-Atlantic States: Coastal. New York: Pantheon Books, 1984.

Parnes, Robert. Canoeing the Jersey Pine Barrens. Chester, Connecticut: The Globe Pequot Press, 1994.

Wild Places and Open Spaces - A Wildlife Enthusiast’s Guide to Finding and Using Public Open Space in the Garden State. Trenton: Division of Fish,

Game, and Wildlife, 1987. Updated periodically, this guide may be obtained by inquiring to the:

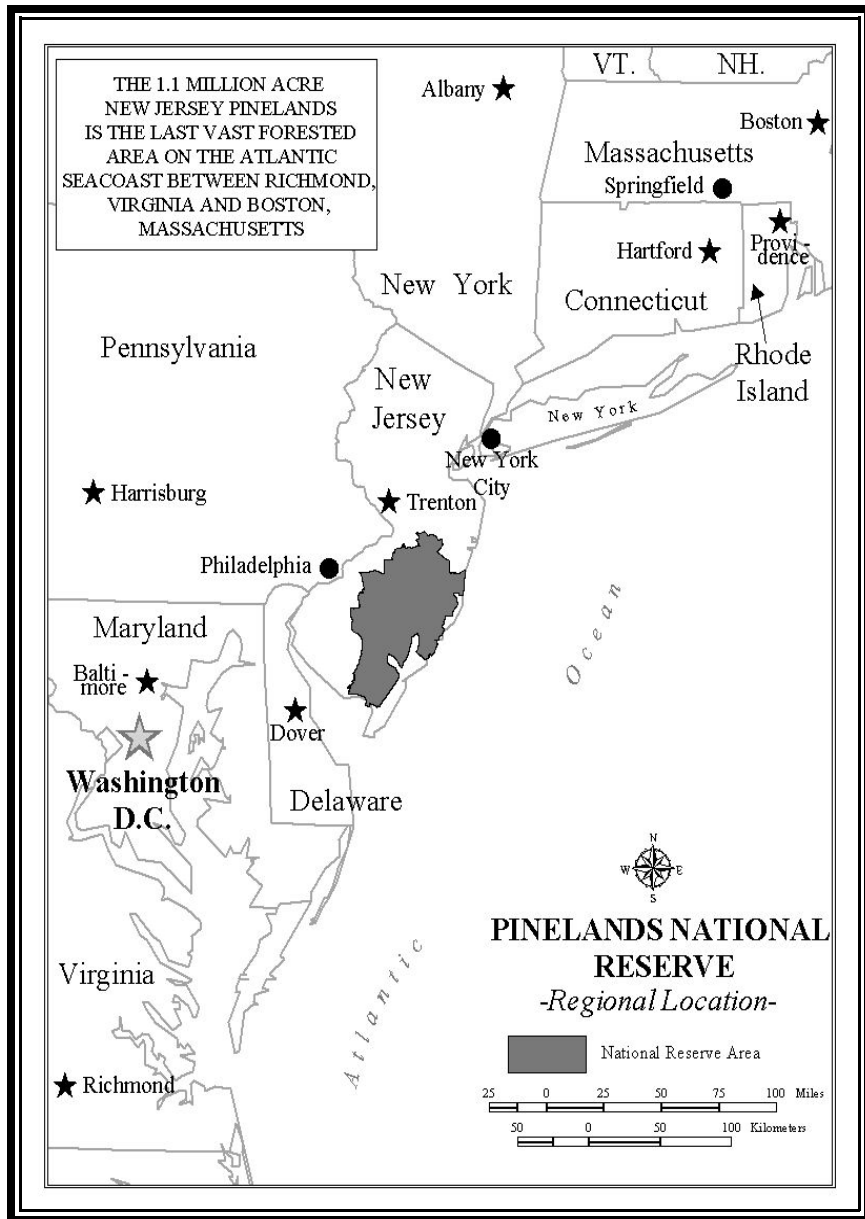
Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife
P.O. Box 400,
Trenton, NJ 08625-0400
Phone: (609) 292-9450

Also, if you enjoy hiking and/or biking, you may want to view: Take Ten-10 Easy Trails in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. Adapted from Bert Nixdorf’s: Hikes and Bike Rides for the Delaware Valley and Southern New Jersey, this booklet is available on the Pinelands Commission website or by contacting the:

Pinelands Commission
P.O. Box 7
New Lisbon, NJ 08064
Phone: (609) 894-7300
Email: info@njpines.state.nj.us
Web site: www.nj.gov/pinelands/

If you would like a map of New Jersey that will show the exact location of the sites described in this booklet, as well as other tourism literature, phone the:

New Jersey Department of Commerce and Economic Development
Division of Travel and Tourism
Phone 1-(800) VISIT-NJ, ext.6010



Facilities & Opportunities Available

	Auditorium	Visitor Center	Nature Center	Historic village	Cranberry Bogs	Educational Programs	Museum Shop	Picnicking	Playground	Bathing or Boathouse	Birds & Wildlife Viewing	Boating & Canoeing	Bridle Paths	Nature Trails	Hunting	Fishing	Special Events Events/Festivals	Campsites	Restrooms	Showers & Laundry	Wildlife Drive
1. Allaire State Park		X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
2. Atsion Village				X				X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X	
3. Bass River State Forest			X					X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
4. Batona Trail								X						X				X			
5. Batsto Village		X		X			X	X						X	X	X	X	X	X		
6. Belleplain State Forest		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
7. Brendan T. Byrne State forest		X		X	X			X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
8. Cattus Island County Park			X			X		X	X		X	X		X		X	X		X		
9. Double Trouble State Park				X	X						X	X		X	X	X			X		
10. E. B. Forsythe N. W. R.	X					X						X		X	X	X			X		X
11. Estell Manor Nature Center			X	X		X		X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
12. FREC		X	X			X	X	X			X			X			X		X		
13. L.G. MacNamara Wildlife M. A.											X	X			X	X					

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14. Penn State forest								X				X				X					
15. P.I.N.E.S.				X	X	X		X			X			X			X				
16. Rancocas Nature Center & Hovnanian Sanctuary		X	X			X	X	X				X		X					X		
17. Greenwood Wildlife M. A.														X							
18. Wells Mills			X			X		X	X		X	X		X		X			X		
19. The Wetlands Institute			X			X	X					X		X			X		X		
20. Wharton State Forest								X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
21. Woodford Cedar Run		X	X			X		X		X	X			X			X				

1. ALLAIRE STATE PARK - ALLAIRE VILLAGE

Description: Allaire State Park consists of 3,035 acres located in Monmouth County on New Jersey's Outer Coastal Plain. This pine and oak forest is similar to that found in the heart of New Jersey's Pinelands National Reserve. The Manasquan River bisects the park and flows east to the Atlantic Ocean. Best known for its historic village and narrow gauge railroad, Allaire also provides opportunities for picnicking, canoeing, hiking, horseback riding, camping, hunting, and fishing. Allaire Village is situated in the park. Originally the site of a bog iron furnace and forge that dates back to the late 1700s, this self contained community once housed over 400 people. Products manufactured at the village included caldrons, pots and kettles, stoves, screws, and pipe.

Facilities: Within the park, there are facilities for picnicking and camping. The park has a nature center that is staffed by a naturalist in the summer. The village general store offers a variety of novelties and gifts. During the summer, many of the village buildings are staffed by interpretive volunteers that provide living history demonstrations. Visitors can fish for stocked trout, rent a horse at nearby liveries, hike the 25 miles of multi-use trails, or simply spread a blanket on the grass and enjoy the views.

The Pine Creek Railroad in the park, established in 1960, is the only live-steam, narrow-gauge train ride in New Jersey today. It is an example of the rail travel used to open up the American frontier. Additionally, the 18 hole Spring Meadow Golf Course, a par 72 course, is open to the public. This golf course is adjacent to the park.

Today, visitors to the village can see the general store, carriage house, enameling shop, carpenter's shop, the Big House, manager's house, foreman's cottage, the old Christ Church, bakery, the furnace, and the row houses which now shelter the village visitor center.

At the center, visitors can see modern displays depicting life as it was for the village workers. A slide and sound show is also available.

Many and varied special events take place within the village and park each year. These events include: antique shows, historic celebrations

of America's history, militia musters and civil war encampments, arts and crafts shows, Village Guild demonstrations, flea markets, storytelling festivals, wildlife carvers and artisans shows, lantern tours of the village, and Christmas sales and shows. A calendar of events is available by calling or writing the park office.

For further information about the park and/or village, please contact:

Allaire State Park

P.O. Box 220

Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727

Telephone: 732-938-2371

Web site: www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/allaire.html

Directions: Allaire State Park and Village are located about three miles south of Farmingdale, N.J. on County Route 524. They are two miles west of Garden State Parkway Exit 98 and one mile East of I-195 Exit 31.

2. ATSION VILLAGE

Description: The Greek Revival mansion that Samuel Richards built in 1826 stands like a roadside sentinel at the site of the once thriving village of Atsion, formerly the location of a bog iron furnace and forge, a grist mill, three sawmills, and a massive paper mill. During the village's heyday, 100 workers at the forge produced stoves that were shipped to New York and other coastal cities, steps for the statehouse in Trenton, and fire hydrant tops for an extension of the Philadelphia water system. Later, under the management of Joseph Wharton, this estate became a productive farm with peanuts as the speciality crop. The state purchased Atsion and surrounding land, now part of the Wharton State Forest, in 1954.

Facilities: Although not a formal tourist center, visitors are permitted to walk the site of old Atsion Village. Two booklets that contain historic information, pictures, and a map of the village — "Atsion: A Town of Four Faces" and "A Journey Through Atsion" can be purchased at the Batsto Visitor Center (609-561-0024).

The Atsion Recreation Center, on the opposite side of Route 206, consists of a public beach, bath house, nature trail, and picnic area. This facility is open to the public from April 1 until October 31. Bathing is permitted from Memorial Day until Labor Day when the lifeguards are on duty. A fee of \$5 per car is charged during weekdays, while a \$7 per car fee is charged during weekends.

For additional information, contact:

Atsion Rangers Station
Telephone: 609-268-0444

Directions: The facilities are located about 10 miles south of Red Lion Circle which is the intersection of Route 70 and Route 206 in Burlington County or about 7 ½ miles north of Route 30, just above Hammonton in Atlantic County.

3. BASS RIVER STATE FOREST

Description: Bass River State Forest, in the heart of New Jersey's Pinelands, consists of 18,208 wooded acres. New Jersey began acquiring the land for this state forest in 1905. In the 1930s, two streams flowing through the park were impounded creating 67-acre Lake Absegami which has become the center of public recreation, water conservation, wildlife and timber management.

Facilities: Within the park, there are facilities for boating and canoeing, swimming, camping, picnicking, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and fishing. A boat and canoe concession is operated at Lake Absegami during the summer months. Powered boats are limited to electric motors. During the summer months, a supervised bathing area is open to the public on the lake's eastern shore. Nearby parking areas, a bathhouse, first aid station, and a refreshment concession are provided. Six cabins, six camp shelters, and 178 family campsites are available. All accommodations have access to drinking water, bathroom facilities, and laundry equipment. Cooking may be done in individual cabin kitchens or on outdoor grills. Reservation details can be obtained from the forest office.

A half-mile self-guided nature trail beginning at the eastern arm of Lake Absegami provides a cross-section of typical pine-oak woods and a small Atlantic white cedar bog.

Visitors may be able to observe a variety of birds and animals common to the area. Hunting is allowed in large parts of the forest. Game found include deer, rabbit, and grouse. Fishing is also permitted. Fresh water species found in forest streams and Lake Absegami include pickerel, sunfish, and catfish. Both hunting and fishing are subject to New Jersey's Fish, Game, and Wildlife laws.

For additional information about any of these recreational opportunities, contact:

Bass River State Forest
P.O. Box 118
New Gretna, New Jersey 08224
Phone: (609) 296-1114
Web site: www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/bass.html

Directions: Bass River State Forest is about 25 miles north of Atlantic City and six miles west of Tuckerton. Take the Garden State Parkway to exit 52 heading south and exit 50 heading north.

4. BATONA TRAIL

Description: Pink blazes clearly mark the 50 mile long Batona Trail that stretches from Ong's Hat in Lebanon State Forest, through Batsto and the Wharton State Forest, to Coal Road in Bass River State Forest. The trail crosses several roads and can be reached by car at many points making it possible to enjoy different types and lengths of hikes. A few rolling hills and some wet areas are the only significant challenges hikers will encounter. The careful observer will see a variety of plants and animals including orchids, huckleberries, deer, and hawks.

Facilities: Permits for overnight camping can be obtained at the Lebanon Forest Office, Batsto Visitor Center, Atsion Ranger Station, or Bass River Forest Office. Campsites are located in Wharton State Forest at Batona Camp and Lower Forge, in Lebanon State Forest at the family sites or group camping area, and in Bass River State Forest near Lake Absegami. Trail maps, restrooms, drinking water, and parking facilities are available at all park headquarters.

For additional information, call or write:

Wharton State Forest	Brendan T. Byrne State Forest
4110 Nesco Road	P. O. Box 215-Shinn's Road
Hammonton, NJ 08037	New Lisbon, NJ 08064
Phone: (609) 561-0024	Phone: (609) 726-1191

Directions: To reach the Byrne State Forest Visitors Center, take Route 72 east at the Four Mile Circle (intersection of Route 70 and 72 in Burlington County). Turn left at mile marker #1. Take the first right and the center will be on your left. Batsto Visitor Center is located along Route 542 in Burlington County just 10 ½ miles west of Route 9 at New Gretna and 8 miles east of Route 30 in Hammonton.

5. BATSTO VILLAGE

Description: Batsto is significant historically as the site of a former Pinelands bog iron and glass making industrial center (1766-1867). Founded by Charles Read of Burlington, NJ, the Batsto Iron Works was an important supplier of munitions and other wartime products during the American Revolution and the War of 1812. From 1784 to 1876, Batsto was owned by William Richards and his descendants. For six decades the Batsto Furnace was noted for its pig iron and domestic products including iron water pipes, stoves, and firebacks. Batsto's glasshouses (1846-1867) made flat glass used for window panes and gas lamps. Iron and glass goods were transported down the Mullica River by schooners to cities up and down the Atlantic coast. Batsto was purchased by Joseph Wharton, a Philadelphia industrialist and financier, in 1876. Wharton turned Batsto into a "gentlemen's farm" by engaging in various agricultural pursuits including livestock breeding and cranberry cultivation at nearby Atsion. Wharton also continued commercial enterprises at the gristmill, sawmill and general store. The State of New Jersey bought Batsto in 1954. Batsto Village is listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places.

Facilities: The Village consists of 33 historic buildings and structures. A Visitor Center contains an exhibit gallery and a Museum Shop. The Museum Shop offers a wide selection of items for both adults and children including books, pottery, woven goods, jewelry, toys, games, stationery, glass, and T-shirts. A Nature Center offers exhibits and programs on the natural resources found in the Pine Barrens. A food concession operates daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day and weekends in May and September. A limited number of picnic tables are available.

Interpretive programs are offered Wednesday through Sunday, September through May; Daily: Memorial Day through Labor Day. Guided tours of the Mansion, audio/visual programs, and rotating exhibits are provided year-round. Reservations are required for group tours of the Mansion. Self-guided tours of the grounds, including the Batsto Pond Nature Trail which leads visitors on a half mile trail

through several Pinelands habitats, are also available. Crafts are demonstrated Memorial Day through Labor Day. Batsto Village is open daily, including Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day. Batsto is closed all other holidays. There is an admission charge for the Mansion tour. A parking fee is also in effect weekends and holidays, Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Additional information on Batsto Village and its programs and facilities can be obtained by writing or calling:

Wharton State Forest
4110 Nesco Road
Hammonton, New Jersey 08037
Phone: 609-561-0024

Directions: Batsto Village is located on Route 542, eight miles east of Hammonton and 10.5 miles west of New Gretna.

6. BELLEPLAIN STATE FOREST

Description: Belleplain State Forest, in the Outer Coastal Plain region of southern New Jersey in Cape May and Cumberland Counties, consists of over 13,000 acres of primarily forested land. The forest offers a dynamic matrix of lowland hardwood swamps, former agricultural areas in various stages of succession, stands of Atlantic white cedar and plantations of Norway spruce, Eastern white pine and Virginia pine, and marshes.

Belleplain was established in 1928 by the state for public recreation, timber production, wildlife management, and water conservation. Beginning in 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) transformed the Meisle family's cranberry bog into a 26.2 acre reservoir that was first named Meisle Lake and later renamed Lake Nummy (in honor of the last Lenape Sachem, or Chief, to live in the county). Three separate CCC camps operated on the property and the men who served constructed the forest's nature center (formerly the main office) and the maintenance buildings, and created much of the present day road system, bridges, and dams. The Corps also improved vast tracts of fields and forest through release-thinnings, hand plantings, and other silvicultural techniques.

The forest is accessible by many motorized routes, multi-use trails, and the abandoned railroad bed of the former "Pennsylvania-Reading Seashore Line" which bisects the forest in an east-west orientation.

Facilities: This state forest offers two connecting self-guided nature trails around Lake Nummy - a 6.5 mile East Creek trail which links two recreation areas, and approximately 10 miles of additional marked paths. A designated bathing area at Lake Nummy is open Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day; a small boat dock is situated on the southern shore of Lake Nummy and a boat ramp is on the western shore of East Creek Pond. Other amenities include picnic tables and barbeque grills; a 10 station fitness course; a wildlife observation platform; a staffed nature center (seasonal operation); a boat rental and food/novelty concession at Lake Nummy during the summer months; and a trailer dumping station for campers. A free booklet describing the nature trail may be obtained at the forest

office. While hiking, the careful observer can discover many of the trees, shrubs, Wildflowers, and animals that are native to the Pinelands. The forest's reputation as a "Mecca" for birders and dragonfly/butterfly enthusiasts is growing and several workshops and seminars are annually conducted onsite by staff of the Cape May Bird Observatory. One hundred eighty-eight family campsites, two group camping areas, and fourteen enclosed lean-tos are located around Lake Nummy. A group cabin called "The Lodge" was recently constructed on the eastern shoreline of East Creek Pond. Flush toilets, hot showers, and laundry equipment are maintained in each camping area. Hunting, trapping, and fishing are permitted within the forest subject to New Jersey's fish and game laws. Deer, grouse, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, fox, and various waterfowl are among hunters' favorite quarry. Freshwater fish species taken include catfish, perch, pickerel, sunfish, and occasionally large mouth bass.

For additional general information contact the superintendent.
Reservations may be made only in person or by mail:

Belleplain State Forest
County Route 550
P. O. Box 450
Woodbine, New Jersey 08270
Phone: 609-861-2404
Web site: www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/belle.html

Directions: Belleplain State Forest is signed along major highways within a five mile radius of the forest office. It is 15 miles southeast of Millville via Routes 47/55 and 550; 10 miles west of the Garden State Parkway southbound at Exit 17 via Routes 9 and 550; 14 miles northwest of Parkway Exit 13 northbound via Routes 9 and 550; and 7 miles southwest of Tuckahoe via Routes 50, 49, and 557 to 550.

7. BRENDAN T. BYRNE (formally Lebanon) STATE FOREST, & PAKIM POND

Description: This 34,000 acre forest is located in the New Jersey Pinelands. The Lebanon Glass Works once thrived here between 1851 and 1867. Abundant sand and locally produced charcoal made the manufacturing of high quality window glass possible. However, once the timber supply for charcoal making was exhausted, the factory was abandoned and the site of the glassworks was reclaimed by the forest. Over a century ago, cranberry cultivation was also introduced to the area. It continues today on this state-owned land.

Pakim Pond, once a cranberry reservoir, is now a quiet retreat. The name “Pakim” was probably derived from Pakimintzen, a Delaware Indian chief’s name. New Jersey’s Delaware or Lenape Indians believed cranberries were a symbol of peace. Their chief, Pakimintzen, distributed the red berries at tribal peace feasts. His name came to mean “cranberry eater.”

Examples of upland and wetland vegetation abound within the forest. Dense stands of Atlantic white cedar, one of the region’s most characteristic trees, are found along the forest’s streams. This species reaches its northern limit of commercial importance in the Pinelands. This light weight and rot resistant wood is ideal for boat building and the production of shingles, fence posts, stakes, and rustic furniture. These woods are a favorite nesting place for redheaded woodpeckers. They are also home to pine, corn, and scarlet snakes as well as a variety of plants including orchids, sundew, pitcher plants, pyxie moss, and sand myrtle.

In 2002, Lebanon State Forest was renamed to honor Governor Brendan T. Byrne for his work in establishing the New Jersey Pinelands as a National Reserve.

Facilities: Within the park there are facilities for picnicking, camping, hiking, and horseback riding. A visitors center is on site. Three cabins and eighty-two campsites are available from March through November. Cabins near the south shore of Pakim Pond may

be rented for up to two weeks. All facilities have access to drinking water, bathrooms, and laundry equipment.

The Batona Hiking Trail, a well marked foot trail, starts at Ong’s Hat near the Four Mile Circle on Route 70 and winds its way through upland and lowland vegetation in Lebanon State Forest before turning south toward Apple Pie Hill and the Wharton State Forest. Many miles of unmarked sand roads are also suitable for hiking.

Horseback riding is permitted on sand roads within the forest. Parking arrangements for horse trailers should be made with the superintendent.

For additional information about these facilities:

Brendan T. Byrne State Forest
P.O. Box 215 - Shinn’s Road (off Route 72)
New Lisbon, New Jersey 08064
Phone: 609-726-1191
Web site: www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/byrne.html

Direction: Brendan T. Byrne State Forest is accessible via Routes 70 and 72 in Burlington County. To reach the visitors center, take Route 72 east at Four Mile Circle Turn left at mile marker 1. Take the first right and the center will be on your left.

8. CATTUS ISLAND COUNTY PARK & COOPER ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Description: Cattus Island Park is a peninsula jutting out into the waters off central Ocean County that divides Silver Bay from its parent, Barnegat Bay. Composed primarily of salt marsh, numerous hummocks dot this wetland “landscape” and provide scenic contrasts. On the upland edges of the marsh, small freshwater bogs and cedar swamps can be found.

The “island” has remained a single parcel since 1690 when the Board of Proprietors of the Province of East Jersey divided this coastal region. During the Revolutionary War, local residents used the area to bring captured British vessels into the Toms River in order to off load their cargoes. Homesteaders also used the island for farming. Flax was grown, livestock raised, and salt hay cut. In 1895, John V. A. Cattus, a New York importer, bought the land and developed it as a retreat. Hunting and fishing were the favorite sports of Cattus and his friends. Finally, in 1973, Ocean County purchased this 497 acres of land. Today Cattus Island is primarily a pedestrian facility featuring Cooper Environmental Center and numerous trails.

Facilities: Open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, the Cooper Environmental Center is a 5,000 square foot building that includes an 80-seat meeting room where slides and movie presentations may be given, a large display area, a library, observation deck, and restrooms. Groups planning to use this facility are requested to register in advance. A variety of trails are open to hikers including a 500-foot boardwalk, a tree identification loop, a sightless trail, and six miles of marked trail. Visitors may also use the picnic and playground areas. Additionally, staff members conduct several New Jersey Pinelands related activities including hikes, bike trips, canoe expeditions, and van trips.

For further information about the facility, contact:

Cattus Island Park
Cooper Environmental Center
1170 Cattus Island Boulevard
Toms River, New Jersey 08753
Phone: 732-270-6960
Web site: www.ocean.nj.us/parks/cattus.html

Directions: To get to Cattus Island Park, take Fischer Boulevard north from its intersection with Route 37 in Dover Township (Toms River). Watch for the park sign on your right about a mile and a half up the road.

9. DOUBLE TROUBLE STATE PARK

Description: Double Trouble State Park offers an outstanding example of the Pine Barrens ecosystem and a window into the Pine Barrens history. The park provides the protection and interpretation of over 8000 acres of significant natural, cultural, and recreational resources representative of the Pinelands National Reserve.

Its location and resource base afford an opportunity to introduce visitors to southern New Jersey's natural and cultural heritage. Both the natural environment, consisting of a high quality Pinelands watershed, and an extremely well preserved historic village associated with New Jersey cranberry agriculture and Atlantic White Cedar logging and milling industries are available to visitors at Double Trouble State Park.

Once the site of a booming nineteenth century lumbering operation, it features a historic district, a 1 ½ mile nature trail, and productive cranberry bogs. Anthony Sharp an Irish Quaker, a woolen merchant, and one of the East Jersey Proprietors was the property's original owner. In 1832, his heirs sold the land to William Giberson, a sea captain. Double Trouble's first cranberry bog was built during the Giberson family's ownership.

Edward Crabbe became Double Trouble's new owner in 1904. Under his leadership, the lumbering business was gradually phased out and 225 acres of cranberry vines were planted between 1910 and 1925. Water from Cedar Creek that flows eastward through Old Mill Pond Bog to Barnegat Bay and the ocean continues to be essential to cranberry farming at this site.

The state of New Jersey purchased Double Trouble from the Crabbe family in 1964. Today the Jersey Devil Cranberry Company leases several bogs near the village. Visitors are welcome to view the cranberry operation including the annual fall water harvest.

Facilities: Double Trouble State Park, an enticing combination of natural and cultural history, is open daily from 8 a.m. until dusk. Currently, its facilities are being upgraded. At this time, the park

does not include a visitors center. Brochures are available for both the self-guided nature trail and the historic village. Visitors may tour the village that includes a one-room school house built in 1890, a cranberry sorting and packing house, a general store, a sawmill, and pickers' cottages; view the colorful cranberry water harvest in October; and hike the nature trail. Naturalists will be delighted with the park's abundant wildlife. Bluebirds are making a "comeback," river otters are occasionally visible, beaver lodges are continually under construction, the local deer herd is growing; and, when the bogs are flooded during the winter months, Canadian geese, whistling swans, and a variety of ducks can be seen. In the spring, the air is fragrant with the scent of clammy azalea and sweet bay magnolia blossoms and orchids may be found near cranberry bogs.

For further information about the park and canoeing opportunities on Cedar Creek, contact:

Double Trouble State Park

P.O. Box 175

Bayville, New Jersey 08721

Phone: 732-341-6662

Web site: www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/double.html

Directions: Situated south of Toms River in Ocean County, this park can be reached by leaving the Garden State Parkway at Exit 80 south. Turn left and drive to the intersection of Double Trouble Road (Route 619) and Pinewald-Keswick Road (Route 618). The entrance to the park is located at this intersection. There is parking immediately inside the entrance.

10. EDWIN B. FORSYTHE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Description: Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge's Barnegat and Brigantine Divisions were originally two distinct national wildlife refuges. In 1984, they were combined under the Edwin B. Forsythe name and today total 43,000 acres of southern New Jersey coastal habitat. Much of the area consists of tidal salt meadow and marsh interspersed with shallow coves and bays. These provide important resting and feeding opportunities for over 275 species of migratory land and water birds, including a variety of ducks, peregrine falcons, bald eagles, rough-legged hawks, lesser snow geese, sandpipers, egrets, and short eared owls.

More than 6,000 acres of the refuge are designated as a Wilderness Area and contain two of the few remaining undeveloped barrier beaches in the state. These fragile areas provide essential nesting and feeding habitats for the rare piping plover, black skimmer, and least tern. Songbirds, woodcock, white-tailed deer, and box turtles inhabit over 3,000 acres of refuge woodlands that are dominated by pitch pine, oaks, and Atlantic white cedar. This acreage, like all refuge acreage, is primarily protected and managed for the benefit of wildlife.

Facilities: The refuge's public use facilities are located at the Brigantine Division headquarters in Oceanville. Here an eight-mile wildlife drive and two short loop nature trails provide excellent wildlife viewing and photo opportunities. An information office and auditorium are located in the headquarters building that is open year around on weekdays only from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Displays in the auditorium provide insight into interesting native fauna.

For further information about this facility, its education programs, and entrance fees, contact:

Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge
Great Creek Road
Oceanville, New Jersey 08231
Phone: 609/652-1665
Web site: forsythe.fws.gov/

Directions: From the north, the refuge can be reached by taking New Jersey's Garden State Parkway to Exit 48. Drive south on Route 9 for six miles to Oceanville. A sign marking the refuge's entrance is located on the right hand side of the highway. Follow Great Creek Road east to the entrance and headquarters building.

11. ESTELL MANOR NATURE CENTER

Description: This 1,672 acre property includes the remains of the Estellville Glassworks that first produced window glass in 1835. Production of window glass continued at this site until 1878. Today, this once thriving industrial site has been reclaimed by the forest. Visitors can now hike well marked nature trails that follow the old railways of the Bethlehem Loading Company, a World War I munitions factory; investigate the nature center's many exhibits and well maintained live animal displays; or attend a lecture presented by a staff naturalist.

Facilities: The Estell Manor Nature Center is the keystone for this Atlantic County Park. Equipped to meet the needs of the walk-in visitor as well as school groups, this facility contains an auditorium that can seat 50 people comfortably; interpretive displays about local animal communities and insects, tree identification, and seed dispersal; and a room containing specimens of animals found in the area including snakes, turtles, and frogs. Programs offered by the nature center include historic tours and lectures, slide shows, teachers workshops, summer nature discovery programs, and school group tours. The center library houses books, maps, reports, and journals related to Atlantic County's history and ecology. Groups planning to use this facility are requested to register in advance. For additional information about this park and nature center, contact:

Atlantic County Division of Parks and Recreation
109 State Highway 50
Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330
Phone: 609-645-5960
Web site: www.aclink.org/PARKS/mainpages/nc.asp

Directions: Estell Manor Nature Center is located along Route 50 south of Mays Landing in Atlantic County.

12. FOREST RESOURCE EDUCATION CENTER (FREC)

Description: The Forest Resource Education Center, (FREC) operated by the NJ Forest Service, is located in Jackson Township in Northern Ocean County. The center contains 660 acres of forested uplands and hardwood swamps boarding the headwaters of the Toms River. The FREC staff provides free comprehensive, interactive programs for schools, scouts and civic groups on the 5.5 mile Project learning Tree Trail. The NJ Forest Tree Nursery utilizes 45 acres to grow 300,000 seedlings yearly for reforestation and conservation planting.

Facilities: There are 10 outdoor learning stations with seating areas that have informational kiosks and "talking tress" located along the trail. Recreational opportunities are available for hiking, nature photography, trout fishing, horseback riding and mountain biking. The Interpretive Center features exhibits and displays highlighting forest stewardship and the benefit of trees. Two annual free family events: Spring Conservation days & Fall forestry festival are hosted at the FREC with wood crafts, hands-on activity, guided hikes/live demonstrations and exhibits. For additional information contact:

New Jersey Forest Resources Education Center
370 East Veterans Highway
Jackson, NJ 08527
Phone: 732-928-0987
Email: njfsfrec@bellatlantic.net
Web site: www.state.nj.us/dep/forestry/service/

Directions: Take exit 21 off I-95, proceed south 5 miles on Rt. 527 to the nursery. Continue on Rt. 527 to Bowman Rd. and turn right to reach the interpretive center. Follow signs to Don Conner Blvd., turn right to entrance. The FREC site is open everyday from dawn till dusk, and is a carry-in, carry-out facility.

13. LESTER G. MACNAMARA WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Description: Situated in Cape May and Atlantic Counties along the Great Egg Harbor River as it flows into the bay and crossed by the Tuckahoe River, this tract is one of the oldest areas owned by the Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife. Purchase of 12,377 acres began in 1933 with funds from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. In 1965, under the Green Acres Program, 61 additional acres were added to the tract. An additional 1,029 acres have been acquired through the waterfowl stamp program. Today, the area contains 13,467 acres.

Facilities: This salt marsh tract offers abundant opportunities for nature lovers as well as sportsmen. During migration season, thousands of birds including sandpipers, knots, dowitchers, curlews, willets, plovers, turnstones, and yellow legs feed and rest in the area. Also present are gulls, terns, skimmers, American bitterns, egrets and herons, yellow rail, black rail, Virginia rail, coot, grebes, loons, and an occasional bald eagle.

Numerous hunting and fishing opportunities await sportsmen. A boat ramp located on the Tuckahoe portion of the tract provides access to the Great Egg Harbor River and Bay. Freshwater fish include largemouth bass, pickerel, yellow perch, sunfish, and eel. In salt water, the major species are white perch, striped bass, fluke, and flounder. Some of the finest waterfowl hunting in New Jersey can be found here. Upland game includes rabbit, quail, squirrel, woodcock, and deer. Trapping of muskrats and mink is permitted. A dog training area and a hunter training range consisting of clay bird shooting and an archery area are available for use by licensed hunters.

Contact the Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife at:

Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife
PO Box 400
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
Phone: 609-628-2103

Directions: This tract is located east of Tuckahoe on Route 50. The office is situated on a double lane, off Tuckahoe-Marmora Road. A sign at the entrance identifies the area.

14. PENN STATE FOREST

Description: Penn State Forest's undeveloped wilderness attracts picnickers and hikers. Lake Oswego, a result of an upstream dam that was constructed to create a reservoir for a downstream cranberry operation, is suitable for canoeing and fishing.

Facilities & Activities: Boating/canoeing; Fishing; Hunting; Cross-county skiing.

For more information contact:

Bass River State Forest
PO Box 118
New Gretna, NJ 08224
Phone (609) 296-1114
Web site: www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/penn.html

Directions: Take Route 563 to Lake Oswego Road in Jenkins Neck, and follow for three miles.

15. PINELANDS INSTITUTE FOR NATURAL &
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (P.I.N.E.S.)
Located at Whitesbog Village

Description: P.I.N.E.S. operates in cooperation with Brendan T. Byrne State Forest to provide science and social studies field trips for students in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. Adult programs that focus on the natural and cultural history of the area are conducted on and offsite.

Facilities: Located in historic Whitesbog Village and surrounded by pine and oak forest, cedar swaps, and cranberry bogs.

For further information on programs and Field trips please contact:

P.I.N.E.S. (Burlington County College program)
120-13 Whitesbog Road
Browns Mills, NJ 080015
Phone: (609) 893-1765
Web site: staff.bcc.edu./pines

Directions: Whitesbog Village is located at mile marker 13 on Route 530, just outside Browns Mills, NJ.

Note: Whitesbog Village is managed as part of Brendan T. Byrne State Forest and leased to the Whitesbog Preservation Trust.

16. RANCOCAS NATURE CENTER AND
THE HOVNANIAN SANCTUARY
OF THE NEW JERSEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Description: The Rancocas Nature Center is situated on the first floor of “the old Ferris Place” built in 1857. Charles Mather and his wife, Naomi McIlvain Mather, were the original owners of this farmstead that is partially bounded by the Rancocas Creek.

Today, the New Jersey Audubon Society leases the center and surrounding land from the State of New Jersey.

Self-guided nature trails, beginning behind the barn, familiarize the visitor with Inner Coastal Plain vegetation. Many of the trees and shrubs—willow oak, black locust, American holly, sweet gum, red maple, spicebush, and greenbrier—are native to the region. However, some, like the multiflora rose, Austrian pine, European larch, and Japanese honeysuckle, are introduced species.

Wildlife abounds in this natural setting. The observant visitor can see house wrens, chickadees, tree swallows, a variety of ducks, gray squirrels, red squirrels, raccoons, and an occasional great horned owl.

The Hovnanian Sanctuary, a 465-acre upland forest located south of Toms River in Berkeley Township, Ocean County, is also managed by the Rancocas Nature Center. Hikers and naturalists will enjoy following the sand roads and trails that criss-cross this site.

Facilities: The Nature Center is open Tuesday through Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Nature books for adults and children, binoculars, bird feeders, notepaper, and bird seed are available in the well-stocked gift shop. Over 1,000 books, periodicals, and pamphlets related to natural history may be found in the reference library that is open to the public.

Exhibits include a variety of snakes, turtles, lizards, animal skulls, bird nests and eggs, and several educational games.

Staff at the center is experienced in working with children from nursery school through the twelfth grade as well as adults. Arrangements can be made for indoor and outdoor educational programs at the center or in the schools. Adult natural history field trips are scheduled regularly; these usually visit the Pinelands and other South Jersey localities for bird, plant, and animal study.

Visitors, including school groups, who want to learn more about Pinelands plants and animals may make arrangements with the Rancocas Nature Center staff for a naturalist-led tour of the Hovnanian Sanctuary, or other Pinelands sites. For those who would prefer a self-guided experience at the Hovnanian Sanctuary, trails are open daily from dawn to dusk and maps of the sanctuary may be obtained from the nature center.

For further information about these programs, fees, schedules, and Nature Center offerings, contact:

Rancocas Nature Center
794 Rancocas Road
Mt. Holly, New Jersey 08060
Phone: 609-261-2495

Directions: From Interstate 295, take Exit 44A and go east on Rancocas Road about 1 ½ miles to the Rancocas Nature Center entrance situated on the right hand side of the road. A sign clearly marks the entrance.

The Hovnanian Sanctuary is located on Dover Road (Route 530) about one mile northeast of the intersection of Routes 530 and 618 in Berkeley Township, Ocean County.

17. GREENWOOD FOREST WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (Webb's Mill)

Description: Like many colonial Pinelands industrial sites, the sawmill and tar kiln at Webb's Mill are only a memory. Zebulon Webb established a sawmill and village here in 1774. A tar kiln was later built; however, both were in ruins by 1839. Today, the forest has reclaimed this industrial complex and it is now part of the 16,333 acre Greenwood Forest/Pasadena tract. Remnants of the old charcoal pit, the dam, mill pond, and sand roads are still visible to the careful observer. Currently, New Jersey Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife oversees the Greenwood Forest Management Area that includes Webb's Mill. Here the visitor will see a fine example of a Pinelands bog with its typical wetlands vegetation. Naturally absorbent sphagnum moss hummocks support a variety of Pinelands plants including sundew, St. Johns wort, cranberries, curly-grass fern, orchids, dwarf huckleberry, and leatherleaf. Pitch pines, clammy azalea, sheep laurel, inkberry, and swamp magnolias are some of the trees and shrubs that surround the bog at slightly higher elevations. They contrast with nearby uplands vegetation that includes golden heather, sand myrtle, bearberry, scrub oak, and bayberry.

Facilities: Visitors may use the boardwalk and trail when observing the native vegetation in this bog. (Adventurers will quickly discover how easy it is to sink knee deep in peat and water if they stray off the beaten path!) This is an ideal location for observing Pinelands reptiles and amphibians as well as native vegetation. During late spring evenings; a chorus of Pine Barrens tree frogs may be heard.

For further information about this site, contact:

Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife
PO Box 400
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
Telephone: 609-292-2965

Directions: Turn north at the intersection of Routes 72 and 539 in Ocean County. Drive 6.2 miles from this point and park by the bridge that crosses Webb's Mill Branch. The boardwalk is visible from this point.

18. WELLS MILLS COUNTY PARK

Description: Elisha Lawrence, once sheriff of Monmouth County, owned much of the land that is now part of today's park. Imprisoned by Colonial forces in 1788 for his loyalty to British King George III, his lands were purchased at auction by James Wells.

Wells, realizing the value of the Atlantic white cedar on his newly acquired property, built a sawmill and dammed Oyster Creek to create a mill pond for water power. Cedar a strong, light weight, rot resistant wood was harvested by Wells and sold to the ship and boat building industry. For almost a century, the mill flourished under Wells and other owners. Ports all along the Atlantic coast received shipments of lumber milled at this thriving hamlet.

Christopher Estlow and his sons purchased the property in the 1870s and built two new sawmills. The Estlows, an ingenious family, are credited with several inventions including a turnip planter, a boat rowing device, a kind of telegraph network that facilitated communication between buildings at the mill, and a patented turbine-type water wheel.

Ownership of the sawmill passed from Christopher to his son Francis and then to his grandson Francis Tilden Estlow. Under Tilden's direction, moss gathering, lumbering, and shingle making took place at Wells Mills. He also initiated clay mining at several locations on the property. Records show that Wells Mills clay was hauled by the Tuckerton Railroad to a Trenton factory where it was made into fine pottery and china.

In 1936, Charles M. Conrad and his son, Grove, purchased the property primarily for recreational purposes. The Conrads, a prominent local business family, oversaw the construction of the sportsman's cabin that still stands above the 35 acre mill pond.

The New Jersey Conservation Foundation purchased the land from the Conrad's in the late 1970s. In 1985, the Ocean County Board of Freeholders completed their acquisition of land for the future

810-acre park by acquiring 200 acres of the Wells Mills site from the Foundation.

Facilities: This 810-acre park is open daily from 8 a.m. to sunset. The nature center, featuring an observation deck, an 80-seat lecture room, and an exhibit area, is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The park and nature center are open Monday through Sunday except Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Day. Groups planning to visit the center are required to register in advance. It is recommended that leaders of groups wanting a tour of the park register nine months in advance. Ten miles of marked nature trails lead visitors through a variety of Pinelands habitats including pine-oak forests, Atlantic white cedar swamps, freshwater bogs, and maple gum swamps. Canoes can be rented and boating and fishing are permitted on the mill pond. A picnic area and children's playground are also available. Additional information about the nature center and recreational opportunities at the park can be obtained by writing or calling:

Wells Mills County Park

Route 532

Waretown, NJ

Phone: 609-971-3085

Web site: www.ocean.nj.us/parks/wellsmills.html

Directions: If you are coming from northern New Jersey, leave the Garden State Parkway at Exit 67. Go west on Route 554 to Route 72. Stay on Route 72 west. Turn right on Route 532. Watch for park signs on your right after about 2.5 miles.

If you are coming from southern New Jersey, leave the Garden State Parkway at Exit 69. Go west on Route 532. Watch for park signs on your left after about 1.5 miles.

19. THE WETLANDS INSTITUTE AND SECRETS OF THE SALT MARSH AQUARIUM

Description: Founded in 1969, the Wetlands Institute is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to public education and scientific research concerning tidal wetlands and coastal ecosystems. The Institute is situated on 34 acres of salt marsh and is surrounded by 6,000 acres of publicly-owned coastal wetlands that serve as a living laboratory for both students and visitors. A wide variety of bird life can be seen throughout the year including osprey, snowy egrets, and an array of waterfowl. Exhibits, live displays, and a self-guided salt marsh trail introduce visitors to salt marsh vegetation, back-bay fish, invertebrates, and turtles.

Facilities: The main building houses a large marsh view Lecture Hall, observation tower, library, research laboratories, and the Tidepool Book & Gift Shop where natural history and science books and gifts may be purchased. Educational programs for schools, colleges, youth groups, and others can be arranged. Programs for the public, such as classes, lectures, workshops, and guided walks are offered year-round. The Wings 'n Water Festival held annually on the third full weekend in September features a nationally recognized carving show, wildlife art and photography show, quilt show, salt marsh safaris, back-bay boat cruises, and retriever demonstrations. Wetlands Institute membership benefits include free general admission, a quarterly newsletter, advance program announcement and registration, discount program fees, and a discount in the Tidepool Shop.

For further information about the Wetlands Institute contact:

The Wetlands Institute
1075 Stone Harbor Blvd.
Stone Harbor, New Jersey 08247-1424
Phone: 609-368-1211
Email: education@wetlandsinstitute.org
Web site: www.wetlandsinstitute.org

Directions: Located near Stone Harbor, in Middle Township of Cape May County, the Wetlands Institute is just three miles east of Exit 10 of the Garden State Parkway on Stone Harbor Boulevard.

20. WHARTON STATE FOREST

Description: Wharton State Forest is the largest single tract of land within the New Jersey State Park System. It is also the site of Batsto Village, a former bog iron and glass making industrial center from 1766 to 1867 that currently reflects the agricultural and commercial enterprises that existed here during the late 19th century.

Throughout Wharton are rivers and streams for canoeing, hiking trails (including a major section of the Batona Trail), miles of unpaved roads for mountain biking and horseback riding and numerous lakes, ponds and fields ideal for wildlife observation.

Facilities: Visitors center, exhibit gallery, museum shop, interpretive center, Batsto Village, Carranza Memorial, Trails, Camping, Fishing, Hunting, Picnic tables, group picnic facilities, food concession, Playgrounds, Boating/Canoeing, Swimming: (Atsion Lake), bathhouse, & Cross-country skiing

For more information contact:

Wharton State Forest

4110 Nesco Road

Hammonton, NJ 08037

Phone: (609) 561-0024

Batsto Office: (609) 561-3262

Web site: www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/wharton.html

Directions: Wharton State Forest has two offices - one at Batsto Village and one at Atsion Recreation Area. Batsto Village is located on Route 542, eight miles east of Hammonton. Atsion is on Route 206, eight miles north of Hammonton.

21. WOODFORD CEDAR RUN WILDLIFE REFUGE

Description: Visit Cedar Run to explore acres of Pine Barrens woods, try out hands-on displays at the Education Center and discover hawks, owls, deer, raccoon, foxes, and other native animals at the Wildlife Compound. Hours: 10am-4pm Mon.-Sat. and 1pm-4pm Sun. Admission: \$5.00 per Adult, \$3.00 per Child, age two and under free. Groups: (10 or more) by reservation only, rates vary with length of program.

Facilities: Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge is located on 171 tranquil acres of Pine Barrens in Medford, NJ. Facilities include an education center, miles of trails and the wildlife compound with exhibits of native species. A wildlife rehabilitation center (not open to the public) takes in 3,500 plus orphaned and injured animals each year.

For additional information contact:

Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge

4 Sawmill Road

Medford, NJ 08055

Phone: (856) 983-3329

Fax: (856) 988-7897

Email: wcrwr@earthlink.net

Web site: www.cedarrun.org

Directions: The refuge has two entrances: 4 Sawmill Road and 388 Jackson Road, Medford, NJ. Call (856) 983-3329 or check the web site at (www.cedarrun.org) for directions.



New Jersey Pinelands Commission

PO Box 7

15 Springfield Road

New Lisbon, New Jersey 08064

Phone: (609) 894-7300

Email: info@njpines.state.nj.us.

Web Site: www.nj.gov/pinelands/